



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 APRIL 1982

TIME: 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Canal Park Headquarters
Blackwells Mills, New Jersey
DATE: Tuesday, 20 April 1982

ATTENDING:

COMMISSIONER: Messrs. Kirkland, Jessen, Jones, Hamilton, Zaikov

STAFF: Messrs. Amon, Kropp, Mrs. Perilli

DAG: Mr. Engel

GUESTS: Parks: Messrs. Guidotti, Stern, Guido, Potdevin
Rangers and Maintenance Crews
NJWSA: Messrs. Kroeck, Shaikh, Chase
PRC Harris: Messrs. Talerico, Dionisio, Ms. Dunne

Mr. Kirkland called the meeting to order and stated that all applicable provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 had been properly met for the meeting of 20 April 1982.

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Hamilton to approve the minutes of the meeting of 16 March 1982 as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

Review Zone Action

Mr. Jessen moved to approve the project known as Cold Soil Estates, 82-0105, as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and carried unanimously.

Mr. Amon requested that a waiver be granted to the Trenton Country Club for the proposed golf cart shed. Although the project is within 1000' of the canal, it will not be visible except possibly in winter and will have no impact on the park. It was moved by Dr. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Zaikov to waive the project. The motion was carried unanimously.

Leases

Two leases were presented for Commission approval: parking and lawn use for

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EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONERS
DIRECTOR Benjamin B. Kirkland Martin D. Jessen Donald B. Jones Robert E. Hughey Stuart Zaikov James C. Sayen
James C. Amon Chairman Vice-Chairman Treasurer Bruce A. Hamilton Arthur J. Holland Frank J. Torpey

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thomas H. Kean, Governor Robert E. Hughey, Commissioner

Franklin Township and the Abbott's Marina concession. Both leases were unanimously approved in a motion made by Mr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Hamilton.

Dredging Presentation

Mr. Kroeck explained that the NJ Water Supply Authority would be giving the Canal Commission monthly updates on the progress of the dredging project.

Mr. Dionisio, engineer for PRC Harris, reported that a rough draft of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared which evaluates the effects of the project on the canal and its environs. Results of preliminary engineering studies show that the best way to proceed is to dewater the canal and excavate in the dry. He estimated that the cost will be approximately \$17 million and that work may begin on the spring of 1983.

The next area to investigate is disposal. Mr. Dionisio stated that most of the sediment removed from the canal is not hazardous and can be used as topsoil. He suggested that a few sites would be preferable to disposing of the sediment to anyone along the canal who wants it.

The plans and specifications are 50% complete. It was reported that PRC Harris' fee for processing permits is \$10,000.

Several questions were raised regarding the impact of the project on the canal but it was decided that a special meeting should be held to discuss the project in detail. Mr. Kirkland appointed a subcommittee to meet with NJWSA and PRC Harris to discuss the cultural and ecological impact on the canal including rip-rap restoration and dredging to water's edge. Those appointed to the subcommittee are Mr. Jessen, Mr. Zaikov, Mr. Sayen, Mr. Kirkland, and Mr. Amon. The meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, 11 May, 1:30 p.m. at the PRC Harris office.

Budget

Mr. Jones moved to grant conceptual approval to the proposed budget presented by Mr. Amon. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hamilton and carried unanimously. Final action will be taken at the May meeting, allowing the Commissioners to have time to review it.

Parks Discussion

Mr. Amon explained that this meeting was requested to help the Parks staff and the Canal Commission to better understand each agency's responsibilities, expectations and problems. He showed a slide presentation of the Canal Park.

Informal discussion followed with several points being raised. The rangers and maintenance crew reported problems in policing the park and keeping up with the litter. One major problem is determining the Park boundaries. When asked if there were particular problems at Scudder's Falls, the rangers reported that most of the problems in that area are with the residents. Apparently the residents expect services from the Canal Park staff that should be supplied by Ewing Township -- such as snow plowing and trash removal. It

was the general opinion that once the recreation node in that area is complete there will be fewer problems with loitering and drinking in the area.

Bud Herald pointed out that since the Griggstown and Blackwell's Mills special nodes had been created, problems in these areas have been reduced.

Paul Stern led the group on a tour of the Canal Park headquarters and a brief walk on the towpath.

It was generally agreed that this type of meeting can be very beneficial and it was suggested that it be held on an annual basis.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.